

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Withdrawn) A composition comprising an Amplicon, a single strand sequence of nucleic acids specific to Francisella tularensis, selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28 and 32.

2. (Withdrawn) A composition comprising a single strand sequence of nucleic acids that is complimentary to the sequence of nucleic acids recited in Claim 1 or any portion thereof.

3. (Withdrawn) A composition comprising a single strand sequence of nucleic acids selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOs:1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30 and 31.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** A method for detection of Francisella tularensis in a sample comprising using ~~an assay~~ a PCR assay to detect a first Amplicon ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:4 and a second Amplicon ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:8 in the sample, wherein detection of the first and second Amplicons in the sample indicates the presence of Francisella tularensis in the sample.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein said assay is a fluorogenic 5'nuclease PCR assay.

9. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** The method of claim 8, wherein said assay is performed using a first forward primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, a first reverse primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:2, and a first hybridization probe ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:3 for detection of the first Amplicon and using a second forward primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:5, a second reverse primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:6, and a second hybridization probe ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:7 for detection of the second Amplicon.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 7, comprising using the assay to detect a third Amplicon ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:12 and a fourth Amplicon ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:16 and a fifth Amplicon ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:20 and a sixth Amplicon ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:24 and a seventh Amplicon ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:28 and an eighth Amplicon ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:32 in the sample.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein said assay is a fluorogenic 5'nuclease PCR assay.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 11, wherein the first Amplicon is detected using a first forward primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, a first reverse primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:2, and a first hybridization probe ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:3 and the second Amplicon is detected using a second forward primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:5, a second reverse primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:6, and a second hybridization probe ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:7 and the third Amplicon is detected using a third forward primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:9, a third reverse primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:10, and a third hybridization probe ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:11 and the fourth Amplicon is detected using a fourth forward primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:13, a fourth reverse primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:14, and a fourth hybridization probe ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:15 and the fifth Amplicon is detected using a fifth forward primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:17, a fifth reverse primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:18, and a fifth hybridization probe ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:19 and the sixth Amplicon is detected using a sixth forward primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:21, a sixth reverse primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:22, and a sixth hybridization probe ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:23 and the seventh Amplicon is detected using a seventh forward primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:25, a seventh reverse primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:26, and a seventh hybridization probe ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:27 and the eighth Amplicon is detected using a eighth forward primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID

NO:29, a eighth reverse primer ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:30, and a eighth hybridization probe ~~comprising~~ consisting of SEQ ID NO:31.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein each Amplicon is detected in a separate reaction tube.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein each Amplicon is detected in a separate reaction tube.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein the sample is from an air monitor.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the sample is from an air monitor.

17. (Withdrawn) A kit for performing the method of claim 7.

18. (Withdrawn) A kit for performing the method of claim 9.

19. (Withdrawn) A kit for performing the method of claim 10.

20. (Withdrawn) A kit for performing the method of claim 11.